

Dear Friend,

Recently, I attended two events on Long Island that showcased how local efforts can make a big difference in our community.

I participated in a "Paint Back the Streets" event with Brentwood Residents Against Violence Everyday (B.R.A.V.E) to clean up graffiti in the Brentwood community. Painting over gang-related graffiti sent the important message that Brentwood residents are ready to take their neighborhood back.

I also attended a press conference with United Way and their YouthBuild Long Island program, highlighting the need for summer jobs for young people on Long Island. YouthBuild is an excellent example of a jobs program that prepares its participants for a future in our burgeoning green building industry. Having a new workforce of young professionals who are ready to transform our homes and workplaces, and construct new green buildings, is what will turn this economy around and make Long Island a leader in a strong energy economy.

Federal money will only go so far in keeping our streets – and our environment – clean. Grassroots events and community programs such as these are what will make the difference in our neighborhoods.

Please click here

(http://israel.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=860%3Asteve-in-our-neighborhoods&catid=12%3Anewsroom&Itemid=1) to check out some pictures from these events. And for more information on my work on Long Island, please visit <http://israel.house.gov>.

Sincerely,

Steve Israel

Member of Congress